REMARKS

Claims 3-12 and 19-21 are pending in this application. Claims 3-12 and 19-21 are rejected.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 3-12 and 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101, because according to the Examiner, the claims as written do not sufficiently distinguish nucleotide molecules and host cells from naturally occurring nucleotide molecules and host cells.

In response, Applicants have amended claims 8 and 19 by adding the word "isolated" before "nucleotide molecule" in claim 8 and before "host cell" in claim 19, as suggested by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully submit that these amendments overcome the §101 rejection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

REJECTION OF THE CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph

Claims 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification is such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains to make or use the invention. According to the Examiner, the claims read on a cell in a transgenic animal.

In response, Applicants respectfully submit that the §112, first paragraph rejection is rendered moot by the amendment to claim 8 adding the word "isolated"

Appl. No. 09/911,969 Amdt. dated October 31, 2003 Reply to Office Action of August 1, 2003

3479-4000US1

before the phrase "host cell", as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this ground of rejection.

In view of the amendments and remarks above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Examiner's grounds of rejection and allowance of the pending claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this amendment, including all fees pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 for its timely consideration, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500. Order No. 3479-4000US1 . A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: October 31, 2003

By: Sybil A. Lombillo

Reg. No. 54.280

Mailing Address:

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P. 345 Park Avenue New York, New York 10154 (212) 758-4800 (212) 751-6849 (FAX)